

Minist. of the United States
Philadelphia, March 19th, 1838.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of
your letter of the 17th inst., respecting counter-
feit coins.

The letter from Messrs. Woodward & Loeb,
which was sent with the counterfeit \$100.00
Dollar, does not contain any information why they
traced it, but states simply: "We take the
liberty of enclosing you a specimen of the note
of some serial or number which has fallen
into our hands, &c." The letter goes on to
make remarks on the imitation, but con-
tains no information that could aid you
in your investigations. It may be proper
to mention that Messrs. Woodward & Loeb are
Silversmiths and refiners, and have long
been paid in for the Mint. There is
doubt that they will furnish you with
any information that they can pos-
sess.

My letter to the Secretary of the Treasury,
of which you have a copy, contains all the
information that we could obtain from a
examination of the counterfeit dollar. The

It contained, however, a mistake of a figure which I pray you to correct, - the specific gravity of the metal being stated at $7\frac{1}{2}$ instead of $8\frac{1}{2}$.

~~The counterfeit Spanish Silver~~

We have received lately, from one of the Banks at Baltimore, ^{five} three specimens of counterfeit American Half Dollars, but they are not from the same die, nor of the same metal, as that sent from Brooklyn. They are found to contain 86, 27.8, 20.9, and 43.8 per cent of silver, while the Brooklyn specimens contain no silver, or but a mere trace.

The counterfeit Spanish ^{Castile} Pillar & Crown which you sent for our examination is rather executed as to the impression, but the metal is easily distinguished from silver. The specific gravity is $8\frac{1}{2}$ instead of $10\frac{1}{2}$. The piece is nearly 5 parts too light. But adding those that it is principally composed of lead, with a ^{small quantity} trace of copper, but without any silver?

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant

J. M. Price, Esq.
U. S. District Attorney
New York.

R. M. P.
Director of the Mint